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CIA wants applications

By BETTY HUTCHINS

The Company is hiring everyone from spies to secretaries — and the applications are pouring in.

The Central Intelligence Agency has always advertised for personnel, but usually very discreetly, in select journals aimed at linguists, cartographers and other specialists.

Now the agency has shed its modesty in favor of the spy-novel approach. One recent ad proclaims, "We're looking for you special men and women who still have a spirit of adventure."

Another ad, printed on top of a white eagle on a black background reads, "If you want to be on the inside of international affairs, we have a job for you."

This new image in advertising was suggested by the CIA's

Madison Avenue ad agency, Ducas and Gaynor. "All we did was make the ads larger, put the CIA logo on them and run them in 12 metropolitan newspapers and several more generalized magazines," a Ducas and Gaynor spokesperson said.

Dale Peterson, chief of media relations and public affairs for the CIA said, "The response to our new ads has been more than favorable, it has been tremendous."

Peterson added the CIA has always received lots of applications, but with the additional media coverage, they are receiving even more.

According to Peterson, the pay is good. Salaries start at \$15,000 to \$22,000 or even higher for those with special qualifications. Applicants must be U.S. citizens and possess a college degree, language skills and be interested in international affairs.

Extensive foreign travel and a well-rounded education are pluses, he said.

Currently, the CIA needs engineers, scientists, economists, computer programmers, English majors with editing skills, history and political science majors with an interest in international affairs, cartographers and researchers.

It takes more than six months to process an application. Extensive security checks are made and oral interviews with a lie-detector are conducted. Applicants are quizzed on their work experience, family background, leisure activities and even sexual preferences.

Checks go back at least 15 years and each applicant must have eight reliable references. People who have experimented with marijuana or other drugs will no longer be automatically disqualified, according to Peterson. "Once you join the CIA you will be definitely required to give up any form of drugs except the kind a doctor prescribes."

The CIA does not discriminate on the basis of sex or age. Resumes may be sent to the Central Intelligence Agency, Washington, D.C. 20505.